

State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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UTAH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST

Salt Lake City – Students from Utah elementary schools are invited to participate in Utah's annual Arbor Day poster contest. Schools in four regions with first place winners will each receive \$500 to be used any way they wish. Student winners receive awards of varying amounts and framed certificates. Registration deadline is February 5, 2008.

"The contest helps children learn the importance of trees in our communities." said Meridith Perkins, chairman of the Utah Arbor Day Committee. "They get excited and they come away with a desire to plant trees."

Students in kindergarten through sixth-grade, plus special education students, are asked to create a poster based on the theme: "Trees are terrific... inside and out!" Schools conduct individual judging and submit one poster from each grade to the Utah Arbor Day Committee. A panel then judges the posters and winners are awarded prizes during the annual Arbor Day celebration. The grand prize entry will be published as a full size poster and distributed statewide. The winning fifth-grade entry will be entered in the National Arbor Day Poster Contest.

Registration materials and entry criteria are now being sent to school principals and Arbor Day coordinators throughout the state. Teachers and schools not receiving registration materials in the mail, or desiring additional information, should contact the Utah Arbor Day Committee at the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands in Salt Lake City at (801) 538-5555, or at www.arborday.utah.gov

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